

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 15, 2020**

Meeting Called to Order: 7:11 p.m. via Zoom due to COVID-19

Members in Attendance: K. Halpin, S. Marr, G. Pohorely, D. Butler
Absent: S. McDonald

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting

The Washington Borough Shade Tree Commission Meeting was called to order and the “Open Public Meetings Act” read into the Record. The meeting was duly advertised and posted on the Bulletin Board for Thursday, October 15, 2020. A Motion was made by D. Butler and seconded by S. Marr that the amended minutes be approved for the meeting of September 17, 2020.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 1
Motion Carried

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Tree City USA Bulletin September/October 2020 – This information will be filed for future reference.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Proposals for Tree Maintenance – Proposals have not been submitted to the Commission as of this date. Requests were sent to three vendors. This topic will be reviewed at the November Shade Tree meeting.
2. 17 Lambert St. Soil Test Results – The Commission agreed that the Rutgers Extension soil test results should be interpreted professionally. D. Butler suggested Jerry Brown review them before the November meeting. The Commissioners unanimously agreed. J. Brown has a background in Botany and is a valued contributor to the Commission. This topic will be discussed at the November meeting.
3. NJ Shade Tree Federation Annual Conference –The annual conference will be virtual this year. Four Commissioners have registered to participate, which will provide the 8 CEU’s necessary for approval status.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 19 Sunrise Terrace – Owner (Elizabeth Dowd) was concerned about a declining tree in the right-of-way. S. Marr visited the location and determined that the Maple tree was at least 20 feet from the curb. This tree was on the town inventory list in error. It is not a town tree. A letter will be sent to the homeowners stating that they are responsible for any tree maintenance that is needed.

2. 91 Railroad Ave. – Property manager (Steve Gutkin) reported a potentially hazardous tree between 91 Railroad Ave. and 85 Railroad Ave. G. Pohorely visited the location and noted that there were several dead branches that should be removed. Gary also suggested that it should be evaluated by a professional tree service. This location will be added to the next quote request.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by S. Marr and seconded by D. Butler that the meeting be adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Ayes: 4, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming